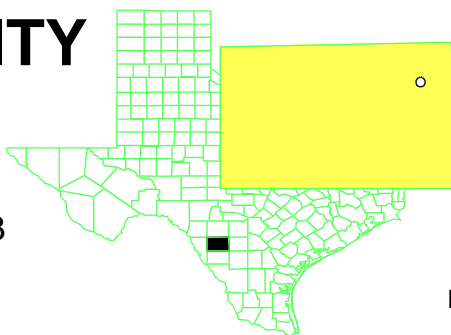


CRYSTAL CITY AIRPORT TEXAS

EPA ID# TXD980864763

Site ID: 0602920



EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT 23
Zavala County

Other Names:
Frank's Cropdusting Services

Updated: April 28, 2005
Next Update: September, 2005

Site Description

Location: • Northeast side of Crystal City, east of US 83 and north of FM 582

Population: • The approximate population of Crystal City is 8,000.

Setting:

- Nearest residence is 300 ft.
- Nearest drinking water well is 300 ft.
- Located at airport.
- Near local high school.
- Surface contamination of pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides.
- Site was deleted from NPL on March 23, 1995.

Hydrogeology:

- 0-200 ft. clay layer with interbedded sandstone, claystone and lignite lenses.
- Principal aquifer at depth of approx. 800 ft.

Wastes and Volumes

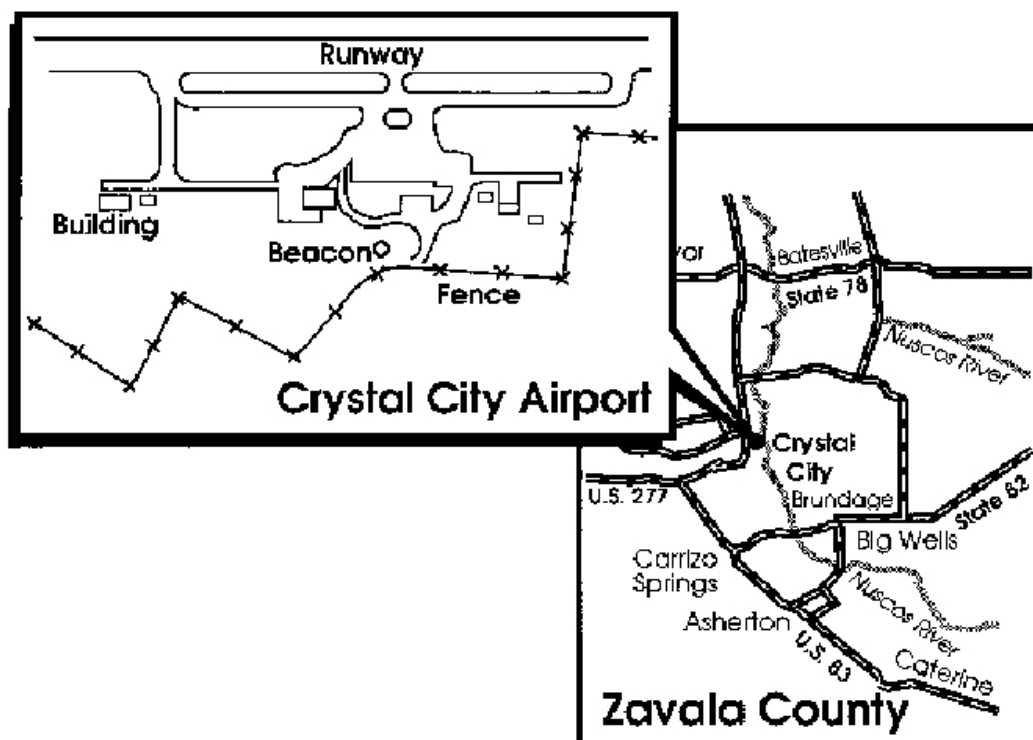
- The principal pollutants at the Crystal City Superfund site include arsenic compounds (1,450 ppm) and pesticides, specifically DDT (2,400 ppm) and toxaphene (1,100 ppm).
- The volume of these wastes is approximately 18,000 cubic yards of contaminated material, that is consolidated in an onsite vault.

Site Assessment and Ranking

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 32.26
Proposed Date: 10/05/84
Final Date: 5/20/86
NPL Update: No. 2

Site Map and Diagram



The Remediation Process

Site History:

- Municipal Airport used for crop dusting properties until 1982.
- In October - November 1983, EPA repaired a dike and pumped most of the discharged sludges back into an onsite pit.
- April 1984, EPA consolidated 40 cubic yards of waste and approximately 70 drums in 2 onsite disposal cells.
- Airport is closed to the public in 1987.
- June 1988, EPA repaired the fence and posted warning signs.
- Use of airport facilities returned to Crystal City on 7/18/90 by the Texas Water Commission (TWC), currently known as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), after construction activities are completed.

Health Considerations:

- Elevated levels of various pesticides and arsenic exceeded the health-based cleanup criteria of 100 parts per million (PPM) total pesticides.

Other Environmental Risks:

- Location of nearest drinking water well is 300 ft.
- No ground water contamination observed.

Record of Decision

Signed: September 29, 1987

Soil Treatment:

- Onsite consolidation of all materials which exceed health-based criteria of 100 ppm total pesticides.
- Placement of RCRA cap over consolidation cell.
- Five year review of remedy was conducted in March 7, 1995.
- Second five year review of the remedy was signed on 09/04/01

<u>Other Remedies Considered</u>		<u>Reason Not Chosen</u>
1.	No Action	Exposure to hazardous waste is not reduced.
2.	Asphalt Cap	Not considered as effective as consolidation and capping with a RCRA cap.
3.	On-site Landfill with treatment	Increase vol. of material due to solidification with effectiveness similar to non treatment remedies.
4.	Incineration	Ineffective for metals (arsenic).
5.	Offsite Disposal	Considered the least favored remedy by SARA.
6.	Fluid Extraction Unit	Unproven feasibility, implementability & reliability.

Removal Activity (Interim Remedial Measures):

- In October - November 1983, EPA repaired a dike and pumped most of the discharged sludges back into an onsite pit.
- In April 1984, EPA consolidated 40 cubic yards of waste and approximately 70 drums in 2 onsite disposal cells.
- June 1988, EPA repaired the fence and posted warning signs.
- Access for construction was denied by City on June 14, 1989; city granted access on 11/22/89, pursuant to Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) for access signed by Regional Administrator on 11/1/89.
- Onsite construction activities were complete July, 1990.
- The Remedial Action (RA) phase was completed upon Regional approval of the closeout report on 12/27/91.

Community Involvement

- Community Involvement Plan: Developed 11/86, revised 3/91
- Open houses and workshops: 10/84, 11/88, 1/90, weekly open house during Remedial Action.
- Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting: 11/88
- Original ROD Fact Sheet: 7/88
- Milestone Fact Sheets: 2/89, 11/89, 1/90, 2/90, 3/90, 4/90, 9/90, 1/91.
- Citizens on site mailing list: 80
- Constituency Interest: High interest; Congressional sub-committee hearings on remedy, 3/88.
- Citizen suit filed protesting selected remedy.
- Suit has been dismissed but may be refiled since remedy is complete.
- Outreach Activities are currently the responsibility of TNRCC.
(site is in state-lead operation and maintenance phase).
- Site Repository: Crystal City Public Library, 101 East Dimmit Road, Crystal City, TX 78839
- Notice of Intent to Delete the site from the NPL was published in the Federal Register on 1/4/95; Public Comment Period ended on 2/6/95. Final deletion notice of deletion from NPL was published in Federal Register on March 23, 1995

Technical Assistance Grant

- Availability Notice: 3/88
- Letters of Intent Received: None
- Grant Award: N/A
- Current Status: No apparent citizen interest in grant.

Contacts

- **Remedial Project Manager (EPA):** Ernest R. Franke, 214-665-8521, Mail Code: 6SF-AP
- **State Contact:** (TCEQ) Barry Lands, 512/239-6547
- **Community Involvement (EPA):** Ernest R. Franke, 214-665-8521, Mail Code: 6SF-AP
- **Attorney (EPA):** Paul Wendel, 214-665-2136, Mail Code: 6SF-DL
- **State Coordinator (EPA):** Karen Bond, 214-665-6682, Mail Code: 6SF-AT
- **Regional Public Liaison (EPA):** Arnold Ondarza, 303-312-6777
- **Prime Contractor:** Qualtech, Inc. (Remedial Action)
- **Engineer:** EBASCO (Remedial Design & Remedial Action oversight)

Present Status and Issues

- The emergency repairs and completion of the actions called for in the cleanup remedy have eliminated the threat to nearby residents and the environment.
- The State of Texas (TCEQ) will continue to monitor the Crystal City Airport site for 30 years, with a review of the remedy's effectiveness scheduled every 5 years following State's O&M inspections.
- The Crystal City Airport Site was deleted from the NPL on March 25, 1995 by Federal Register notice [FRL-5176-9].
- The first five-year review inspection was signed 3/7/95. The second five-year review was signed 9/04/01.

Benefits

- The airport has been deemed safe to use.
- Over 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated material have been effectively contained to protect human health and the environment, and return use of the Crystal City Airport to citizens and industry.